MARRAKECH – Fellowship Morning Meeting
Tuesday, March 08, 2016 – 07:00 to 09:00 WET
ICANN55 | Marrakech, Morocco

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Everyone [foreign language]…

We want to get started just in the next minute or two.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Today we are going to have constituency day at ICANN. So for newcomers, it's kind of find your sector day as well, where you can have many things of your interest. There are many constituency sectors or sessions going on in parallel. And most of them are under the umbrella of GNSO.

Also you can find what your interest is, so keeping in view we have the speakers from different constituencies talking to us today. So that's a good occasion of looking into your interests, what you find interesting. And you can follow that up later on by attending their sessions, and by talking to the people.

So the first guest speaker that we have today is Tapani. He's chair of NCSG and NCSG is non-commercial stakeholders group. So I would just request him to maybe to start so that we can, okay thanks. Thanks Tapani for coming.

TAPANI TRAVANEN: Just testing. Can you hear me if I'm standing up? Is the mic long enough?   Okay, I still want to start standing up because otherwise nobody will know who is going on, and I feel like standing up for a moment. I sit way too much.

So as you heard, I'm Tapani Travanen, and I'm presently the chair of NCSG, the non-commercial stakeholder group. Okay, this works better. So I was told, suggested that I should come in my pajamas to make you feel more comfortable, so of course I put on a white shirt and a tie.

And for those who can't see me close enough, my tie has secret banner encoding here. If you could figure out the message, then you're in this inner circle of ICANN.

That's very alert. Thank you. So what is NCSG? Non-commercial stakeholder's group. it's a little exercise. If you have paper, I did not make a slide. It is more useful if I try to draw this thing. Look it up. At the top layer, GNSO, generic names supporting organization, which is the thing that handles generic top level domains like dot com, and dot Amazon, and whatever.

And all of these new gTLDs you've heard so much about, I presume. Under that, split into two, you have a contracting

parties house and a non-contracted parties house. CPH and NCPH. And now we're going down and splitting only where [inaudible] NCPH, the non-contracted parties house is those who don't have a contract with ICANN, the others are registries registrars. We don't know about them.

But under non-contracted parties house, we are commercial stakeholder group, and non-commercial stakeholder group, which is us. And as you will no doubt here after this, NCSG is again sort of split up again, but that's not so clear cut split any more. There was two constituencies, non-commercial users constituency, NCUC, and natural perfect operating concerns, NPOC.

But it's not a clear cut division. Those actually overlap a little. If you do [inaudible] make sure they overlap because it's possible to be a member of both, and also it's possible to be a member of neither. There are several NCSG members who don't belong to either of those.

And exactly how this work then, okay, you will meet their chairs in a moment, and they can explain that later, but one interesting observation is that policy work, the key thing we'd actually do in NCSG, trying to influence GNSO policy, happens at the stakeholder group level.

We elect counselors to the GNSO council, who do the heavy lifting, and of course we also work in various working groups, but this happens at the stakeholder group level. So don't let those NPOC and [inaudible] chairs tell you that you don't have to care about the NCSG, that is everything on the constituency level.

Real stuff happens at the stakeholder group level. Now, on the other hand, [inaudible] including most of funding goes to the constituency, so it's kind of a little confusing. Okay, what is exactly this policy we try to influence? A few thoughts here. And what is the main interest of NCSG?

We are concerned with non-commercial users, non-commercial organizations. Things like all the way down to individual users, privacy, freedom of exercise, also consumer right's type things. Say that you are registered a domain name for yourself, what are your rights? And holding onto it. A consumer in many senses, but also in the sense that a registrant, that is someone who has their own little domain name, is a consumer of domain names.

So your relationship to registrar registry would be a consumer then. So for example, what happens if you have a domain name, you forget to renew it, but you have to get it back? That kind of stuff. If you want privacy stuff, like if you have a domain name

again, and you don't want the world or the evil guys, whoever they may be, in your case, could know exactly where you live.

That's one ongoing thing that you might be interested, WHOIS process. I guess you have an idea of what WHOIS, that is [inaudible] to finding out who is behind a certain domain name. Basically where they live, and that is being renewed with concerns again going both ways.

If you're being spammed, you might want to hunt down that guy. Where is he coming from? Or scammed any other way, some fraud on the Internet. But you might be running your own little center, website, somewhere, and you don't want your bad guys to get you.

So that's one ongoing process you might want to be more involved in for example. Likewise, you maybe want to criticize some evil company, I won't give any examples, I guess you can think of some. And setup your own domain name, domain [inaudible] dot [inaudible], whatever.

And then you have the right to do that because trademark legislation comes in your way. What are your rights in that way? Some kind of things happen in that. And of course, a lot of that is sort of boring, bureaucracy thing, but it's important, how do these things actually happen? What are the process is, the technical issues, all of that kind of stuff.

Because often, the key is in details, the details as they say. You may have a nice principles laid out, and then you start implementing it, getting it down and then there are all kinds of loopholes. There are lots of lawyers in ICANN who are very good at creating loopholes and taking advantage of them.

So, watch out for the nitty-gritty stuff, and that's where need also manpower, so to speak, women power will do as well. People who will read between every comma, every line, and see what exactly is the catch hiding behind here. So, maybe boring, but it also may be exciting if you get down to it. That kind of things we want to do.

Okay, I'm not going to talk, give much of the talk. Experience is that at this time in morning, after 10 minutes, people start nodding off, if I don't stop talking and start getting questions. Anybody feel free to ask whatever you want. I will answer something, maybe I don't know, I'll just make something up or [inaudible], whatever. Okay, and now I'll sit down for a moment and hand it over to you.

And if nobody says nothing, then I think that you are so much more, you understood everything already, right? So nobody asking anything. I assume you know everything. I'll stop pointing out, you explain the rest.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Okay. [Inaudible] we do here, the standard is also to introduce ourselves first. I'm [inaudible] from Nigeria. I come from BC, business constituency. There has been this conflict, although I've been able to data [inaudible] today. I'm interested in non-for-profit, because I represent about two or three different not for profit organization.

But at the same time, I own a business, so my interest and of course, I've been part of BC from some time now, and I am on this Fellowship from BC. Wouldn't there be a conflict of interest if you are representing BC, and at the same time, you are interested in what are [inaudible] not for profit organizations? So how do I balance that? Thank you.

TAPANI TRAVANEN: Yes. There would be a conflict of interest. We generally do not accept members who are also members of another stakeholder group. You're supposed to choose your, right here, and if you're in business, then you are not non-commercial. So and actually I think there is also a [inaudible] rule saying that you can't do that.

So if you're in business constituency if you're on the, on the dark side over the [inaudible] are concerned. Sorry. But of course, you may find that if the business constituency does not share your interest too much, and you're actually not doing really,

business is in your interest then. [Inaudible] Join hold, but in principle, you're not supposed to be in both.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Sorry, one of the things I found out yesterday when I was discussing with [inaudible] and Professor [inaudible], was that, most of their members don't own businesses. They have commercial concerns, but they're more interested in what happens at the non for profit. And so the, sort of abandoned their business concern in the interest of what happens in commercial.

So that's one of the things they were trying to say yesterday to me, that okay, you have business concerns about that. But at the same time, there are some people, not for profit, that requires their interest to be protected. So they suspended their interest in business.

Is this [inaudible] advisable? I'm just trying to be clear.

TAPANI TRAVANEN: I'm not quite sure how to put that, but the rule about not belonging to multiple constituencies actually comes from a multiple stakeholder groups, is that you can't vote on both side of an issue. You can only get one way to vote. You can still participate in the work [inaudible] anyway.

And as for a non-for-profit or non-commercial, actually I never found out difference in terms between not for profit [inaudible] organization and non-commercial organization. So but when you look down to it, look at the work you want to do. What are the interests here?

And then see where that is going on, rather than… As I said, NCUC is not a binary thing you can work them both. You can actually work in the working groups regardless of which, even if you're not member of any. Maybe that helps a little. Okay, next.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you very much. My name is [inaudible] for the record. One question. What is the difference between IDN NC, NCUC and At-Large? Thank you.

TAPANI TRAVANEN: Okay, that's… NCUC and At-Large, okay, let's put it a little overlap and say NCSG and At-Large. I'm sure you will, if you don't already have met At-Large or ALAC Chair, Alan Greenberg. Yesterday, okay. So you have his view on this, which I would knew what he said so I could counter it, but…

First, NCSG is more narrowly focused. We concentrate on GNSO, the general names, and the policies in that. So, At-Large is more, as I understand it… Okay, I'm not really good at telling you what

At-Large is because I'm not At-Large, but it's, the spreading the word type of thing, to corner the masses into the [inaudible] of ICANN.

There are lots of At-Large comprised of many organizations all over the world. Of course, NCSG also has handled something like 500 members, I forget. And very widely dispersed, but the way we work is perhaps more clearly focused on GNSO policies. So things like, you want to have your voice heard, if you want to look at the GNSO Council, that's [inaudible] actually that's policy recommendations through policy rules for how ICANN works, so that that way it's more in the inner core, but [inaudible] as you might say.

I'm not sure if it really helps any. If you want to get down to it, you should actually have a look at the working groups and council meetings, but inside it's going on. So, I don't know, maybe an example…

Okay, [Navid].

[NAVID]: [Navid] [inaudible] for the record. Actually the difference that I see is that NCSG or NCUC deals with everything regarding policy making of gTLDs or generic top level domains. So that is… You can say the area. At-Large, in general, protects the Internet

users in general, and they can be, or they can relate themselves to anything that in the umbrella of ICANN.

So they can work with any other, because they are advising. Their role is to comment on what's going on, and to get involved with many other constituencies, or organizations, or advisory committees, to work together to come up with the commenting [inaudible] and all of that, by protecting the user rights. But at NCSG or NCUC, we have more like a policy making, and commenting on the policies relating to the gTLDs. So this is my view on that.

TAPANI TRAVANEN: Yeah. [Inaudible] a bit really, come up with examples that will not fall within the purview of NCSG, would be say, IP addresses, maybe you want to block IPs of your own, then NCSG does not [inaudible] that. If you have a country code domain, you have a domain name ending with any two letter code basic like, but if I fulfill whatever else, within the NCSG because that's a ccNSO thing.

But as long as it's something, also user rights, as long as it involves top level, generic top level domains. So anything rights related to your top level domain, generic top level domain, or your rights regarding someone else's, WHOIS is an example, how you can find out about that, or maybe, somebody registers a

domain name in your, that has your trademark in it, or your name something.

Okay, non-commercial users don't usually have trademarks, but you must have an organization and then somebody hijacks its name, do you have any rights in that case? That kind of stuff. But just on generic top level domains. And of course, the narrower the scope, the more effective you are in that narrow scope.

So At-Large spreads their tentacles all over everything. But in the narrow scope of generic top level domain policies, then NCSG is the…

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yes, thank you. [Inaudible] for the record. So if I belong to an organization that is a RALO, is part of At-Large can it be possible that it also belongs to your constituency? Or this is included?

TAPANI TRAVANEN: Yes, actually in that sense, NCSG and At-Large are [inaudible], you can belong to both. There are different approaches. Unlike multiple stakeholder groups within the GNSO, you can only belong to one, but At-Large is like coming from a different direction. So you can do both.

We have many members, we have some ISOC chapters, whatever [inaudible] members of the NCSG. So you are most welcome to then find out what is the most effective channel for whatever interest you have in specific case. And keeping most options open if you have, is of course a good idea.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you.

TAPANI TRAVANEN: Okay. Any other questions? Okay, [inaudible] wants to speak.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thanks. I apologize for coming in late. My name is [inaudible], I'm a member of the NCUC. I just walked in and noticed you were talking about the differences between At-Large and NCUC. And there is one difference, I'm actually not sure, you probably went over this or not, but I just wanted to point out because it's a very significant and important difference.

The NCUC as a constituency in the GNSO is, well the GNSO itself is mandated to develop policy recommendations for gTLDs. ALSs, At-Large structures as part of RALOs, regional At-Large organizations, which are also part of, which are represented in

ALAC, the At-Large advisory committee, have a much broader scope of work.

Did you go over this? Sorry if I didn't… And if you did…

TAPANI TRAVANEN: Actually go ahead…

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah. Because advisory committees, the scope of their work goes far beyond just gTLDs, advisory committees can provide the ICANN Board on advice on a range of issues, including for example, security and stability, numbers, protocols, if they would like to. But that is clearly beyond the scope of the GNSO.

This is not something that we handle within there. So that is also a significant difference. If your organization, as a RALO, or a member in the NCC does have an interest in, the work of ICANN beyond generic top level domains, then you should also probably sign up as an ALS.

But if you are interested in having a say or a vote, an actual vote in gTLD policy development, then you do need to become a member in a GNSO constituency or stakeholder group. Thanks.

TAPANI TRAVANEN: Thank you very much. So you heard the same story in a couple of different ways, but particularly [inaudible] my interpretation is the mother of learning [inaudible] maybe the second time, get the point. Any other questions from the audience? Anybody volunteers to explain everything again?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Just one thing. It would be great if you can highlight on how to get involved in NCSG and how to become a member, just the process for anyone who is interested.

TPANI TRAVANEN: Okay. In order to join NCSG, you have to find the secret hidden application form, buried deep in the ICANN website. Of course, if you already know which constituencies you like, you both NCUC and NPOC, their own websites have pointers. [Inaudible] domains, you can try NCSG dot IS, which is kind of funny because actually it's a country code domain, but that's where you find NCSG.

NCSG dot IS. And the NCUC dot ORG. And NPCO dot ORG. In either case, you will find application form, to the same application form where you can take, if you want to a NCUC or a NPOC or neither. And you can of course do that later as well, if

you join NCUC now, and then want to sign NPOC later or vice versa, you can do that.

[Inaudible] as long as the NCUC and the NPOC will approve. That's an independent process, principle. And of course, they have different requirements for membership, so for example, individual users can't join NPOC. That's all. NCUC dot IS, NCSG it is, okay. NCSG, remember that.

I need to ask you to explain things like what, what are you doing? Why do you want to join? And once you do fill the application, it comes to NCSG steering committee, which meets like once a month, and if they don't actually [inaudible], because I'm the chair of the NCSG, the committee as well, don't understand where you coming from.

We see everything business or what. We may ask you questions, or if it's obviously business, then we just reject and go to business community, constituency, whatever. So, everybody found members that NCSG is, okay. Anything else?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: The only thing is to give you a round of applause.

TAPANI TRAVANEN: I still have five minutes to go. So any of you already members of NCSG, hands up. Okay. And now [inaudible] you should [inaudible]. Okay, the rest, why not? It doesn't cost anything, other than the trouble of filling out the form. Although actually the technical charter, I think, allows for membership fees, but have never been collected.

Okay, NCSG doesn't even have it. Okay. So NCSG is safe. Be aware when you join NCUC, they might charge you. Although they never have, but who knows?

Okay. Anything else or shall we just have a cup of coffee while we're waiting for Rudi to show up. Okay.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah, hi Tapani. I just wanted to clarify. So I thought the NCSG was the umbrella under which the NCSG and the NPOC is, so you can have a separate membership to the NCSG and be neither a member of the NPOC or the NCUC?

TAPANI TRAVANEN: Yes. You not only can, you must. NCUC and NPOC members all have to be NCSG members first. And you don't really have to belong to NCUC or NPOC to be NCSG member. We have a small number of members who belong to neither of them. It's also

possible to belong to both if you're an organization that qualifies to both.

So they are not distinct parts of NCSG, but just different organizations, sub-organizations operating within NCSG with different, lots of different and overlapping goals. If you try to draw a box, there is a big box, NCSG and then there are two other boxes inside of it, overlap a little but don't cover the entire box.

So you always apply to NCSG first, and when you applied, having approved NCSG, then usually your application automatically on NCUC or NPOC or both, depending on where you wanted to join. So this is different from the commercial stakeholder group.

Anything else?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I just wanted to add for the benefit. So the organization that I work for is a NCSG member, and I think for others that do not fit into this category, it's a great way to dive into ICANN's work, and very supportive team and people to help you understand and really get involved very easily.

So I completely encouraged joining with one of this.

TAPANI TRAVANEN;   Thank you for the kind of words, and I must… And I would second that. If you are not members of NCSG, go, fill out an application form, now. Unless you're evil business people. Okay.

Yeah, reminding you all that this is constituency day and there is lots of stuff going on about the constituencies, and we also have a separate NCSG session in the afternoon. I don't really like to think that actually had NCUC and NPOC sessions at the same time so you can't really follow both, but you can start with one and jump to the other if you want to see both, half of both.

In the afternoon, come to the NCSG session. We'll have something that may be of interest, I hope.

Yeah, we'll meet the Board as well, so if you want to see the really high-ups and how scary they are, and how we frighten them up, come along and take a look. Okay.

There are still two minutes, but if nothing else, that's a time to get a cup of coffee for those who have not already done so. Okay? Thank you everybody.

JANICE DOUMA LANGE: Thank you Tapani very much. [APPLAUSE]

And the coffee machine is almost work, but please don't rush it. So, Rudi, I don't want to rush you either. I know that we're… Are you sure? Okay, so Rudi Vansmick is from the NPOC, is going to talk to us. Which we talked a little bit about since we started with the NCSG, but he's going to give us a deeper dive into that.

So Rudi, the floor is yours.

RUDI VANSNICK: Thank you. Good morning. Bonjour. All awake, yeah? I see some faces that I recognize already. So it's a pleasure to be here with you again. And I hope I can meet you several times in the future. NPOC stands for the not for profit operational concerns constituency, a long name. That's why we call it NPOC.

And we are part of the NCSG. We are still the youngest constituency. In June, we will celebrate our fifth anniversary, which means it's still a little baby. It has [inaudible]. It can't compete with some others, but we are still quite young in a small group.

Nevertheless, we have today, already 69 members, which is not bad. Can be better. And we hope that you join our team, to let it grow. Our mission is essentially focused on, as our name is saying, on operational concerns for NGOs for not for profit world. And that's quite complex.

Normally, domain name has a value, and especially for business communities, it's of high value. That's where they do their business. For a NGO, it's quite different. What we discover is that most of the NGOs are using social media, and most of the reasons they are giving us is, well it's free. And that's not fully correct. It's not free. When you're posting your messages on social media, you're losing your ownership. You're giving it away. And others can use your information. Your interesting data, and get money for it.

If you have your own domain name, you can really claim the ownership of what you're posting, and that makes it different. And that's why we are actually working very heavily with an initiative that's called Pathfinder, to create awareness in the NGO world, to make you aware of the fact that when you post your messages on your domain name, your domain name becomes and has a value, and the more information you can spread on, the more value it gets.

And that's helpful for a NGO, especially in times where economic crisis is not helping you. Most of the time, the volunteers in NGOs are not paid. They do it for free. Just like we are doing this work inside of ICANN for free. It's volunteer's work. And we know that asking volunteers to do more volunteer work is kind of suicide.

However, if we are not doing it, the NGO community will not have any profit of it. So we need to do a bit more to help the NGOs, to help non for profit world, to stand up and especially in developing regions, it's quite important. Developing regions are essentially focusing on economic drought, becoming more important, becoming more sustainable, and that's I think quite interesting for our community.

We try to help volunteers in different perspectives, not only just by helping them to understand the DNS better, but also to understand the Internet governance, and where you have a voice in it. Because if you don't raise your voice, nobody will listen to you. That's quite simple. That's why in ICANN we have these public forum meetings, where you can raise your voice.

And sometimes we hear some comments that everybody is surprised about. And especially for newcomers, because you're not used to this machinery, and it's good to have new voices that are identifying, hey guys, you're on the wrong path. We need to have inputs from you in order to correct or adapt where it's needed.

And especially in periods like these where we have this IANA transition on the table, for almost two years. I hope soon it's going to be off the table and implemented. And allows us to do

our other work again. But that's how ICANN moves forward. It's not us controlling the world, the world controls us.

And I think that's where, it's so interesting to be in ICANN. Myself, I'm not a newcomer anymore. I could say I'm almost a veteran, but only by age. I have 11 years in ICANN now. Originally, I'm a co-founder of the At-Large community, ALAC. I'm co-founder of EURALO, the European regional At-Large. We signed the MOU with the CEO in 2007 in Lisbon.

The ceremony was delayed for two hours. The press was almost gone, because we had the debate on the triple H. It took two hours longer than was scheduled, and our ceremony at the end took place, but it almost failed to have taken place.

And I probably, you already have, had somebody, I think Alan Greenberg yesterday, talking to you about the At-Large. It's a very interesting community, otherwise I would have not been there for seven years. It's different from what we do. At-Large, as it says, advisory committee, is giving advice and policy, and you probably know that advice most often is not binding.

While we are doing the policy development, it means we are writing the rules and the laws. And they are binding. And that's a different part. That's where you can be as an organization, a member of At-Large, and do advisory work because you love to do advisory work.

But you can also be in the policy development body, because you're interested in doing policy. And policy means participation in lots of working groups, exploring new laws and new rules, that we can implement. And as one of the samples of, one of the counselors that is really floating on proposals that are coming upon the council, in the GNSO…

Also, you see. He is also a veteran, but not in age. They are different places work, and it is important to distinguish what your interest is. You have to define what you love to do, because it's still volunteering work and a volunteer is not pleased with what he or she is doing, you drop off quite quickly.

So if you are interested in doing advisory work, I would say ALAC is a good place, but if you really want to define with us what's the future of the DNS, then you have to join us and you can do it in NCIG, as Tapani has explained. You can be a member, an individual member, in NCUC, in NPOC you need to be an organization.

You need to be a member of a not for profit organization, otherwise we cannot accept your application. And we know it's not so easy to get this done. It's easy to sign up as an individual, and we have nothing against… We have people that are in NCUC and still love to come and discuss with us NPOC, there is no limits in what you do.

We are welcoming a lot those that have a voice, those that have an opinion on things that have to change in ICANN, especially in our community, as we are young, sometimes we need some corrections, some guidance. Say look, this is not good, it's not a good approach. You're not helping NGOs.

You're not helping the not for profit world. You have to do it this way. That's why we are asking you, join us in our meeting today, starting at 9:30 until 1:00. We have a few visitors in our session. We have asked Xavier Calvez, who is the CFO of ICANN to come to our meeting and explain how the special budget requests are working.

How do we have to enter them? What are our criteria? What is the rule out? How are they implemented? Because that allows us to do some special program, special initiatives. And we need to know how it works, how it is done inside ICANN.

And second visitor we will have is [inaudible] who is going to explain to us how the reviews are done, because probably it's something that not everybody understands, and [inaudible] and myself, we have, we are wearing our button already.

You can ask us what the review means, or you come to our session. I think it's 11:15, between 11:15 and 12 that [Larissa?] will come and explain us what the review, what the review

process means. It's quite interesting, you know? It's, you know that in ICANN, reviews are going on almost all of the time.

There is one from the ALAC, the ATRT 2, we are really champions in acronyms. And don't be ashamed if you don't understand. Sometimes I'm quite tricky and I'm inventing an acronym myself. There are others, do you know? Most no. I have to say, I don't know either.

I see somebody has a question.

NADIA: Thank you Rudi. This is Nadia [inaudible]. I want to ask why NPOC is not open, it's open to only to organization member and not to individual members as NCUC?

RUDI VANSNICK: Well, it is because of our charter. When… NPOC has been created by, we are unfortunate the person passed away a few years ago. In fact, a year after he created NPOC, [inaudible], great guy. When it has been created, it has been focusing on the not for profit world, and as NCUC already covers the individuals, there was no reason for creating another body that is also having individuals while we are still in the NCSG.

It didn't make sense. And if you want to align with the rules in a non for profit world, you cannot allow individuals to have a higher voice than the organization itself. And that's where it is quite difficult, if you want a balanced position, and that's a bit what we are discussing also in NCSG, and from NPOC, they bring this on the table.

Is that the number of individuals in NCSG, are much bigger than the number of organizations, which means individuals are in fact overruling voting of organizations, and that's not really fair. That's a dangerous situation. You have an unbalanced discussion.

NADIA: Do you think the voting, if maybe open up like the individual, but non-voting member, like organization, they're just part, willing to serve on…

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Sorry Rudi. I just want to clarify something, because it's about the vote, even we have individuals and organization, it's weighted vote. So it means like if you are a large organization, you have more weight votes and [inaudible] votes. So there is, we're trying to balance.

So sorry, I'm [inaudible] I'm the chair of [inaudible], I'm going to speak after that, so.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Please, no. It's completely understandable. We all do the coffee machine just came back online. I completely understand.

RUDI VANSNICK: I will comment on what is brought up as an idea of maybe reviewing our process in allowing people to join as an individual NPOC. It's something that we are thinking about. But you know, we need to go through quite a long process to review the charter and get it approved again.

That's the work of, maybe a few years even. That's why we are not putting focus on it. I think it is important that we can speak for the organizations, and speak as organizations. It's important that we are not raising individual voices. It's dangerous, if we start talking for NGOs while we are not listening to the NGOs.

So that's, at the end, that's the goal. Other question?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah, and I think this is just from a feedback point of view, because I know at some point I was also interested in NPOC. But

you know, in non profit world, just like ICANN being a nonprofit organization, sometimes can be quite hierarchical.

So that the person who actually has an interest or maybe even a program portfolio, that falls within the scope of ICANN, may not necessarily be the person who is influential enough within the organization, to get the endorsement of the entity to be represented.

Also the tendency is to want to be presented by a CEO as opposed to a program level person, and this would not necessarily be the right place for them anyway. So my recommendation is that I think the outreach needs to go beyond just the individual as well at ICANN.

But the reason [inaudible] is at that leadership level of NGOs for them to actually… You know, I bet you most of them don't even know what ICANN is. So asking them to have the organization join, it's a tough sell. It's really a tough sell.

RUDI VANSNCIK: Well I would say you would be a really good person to join NPOC. You're raising the right voice, the right questions, and the right proposal. It is a hard work, you know. I know the second year the chair, and we are trying to focus on outreach as much as we can. When we're talking with ICANN structure who is

responsible for outreach to help us getting the voices past, but it's not easy.

We know. I have been in [inaudible] at the third [inaudible] summit, and we got already three or four members coming out of that summit, because in Africa, we know that it's to me, it's the only region that has a nice future. You can still grow.

I'm coming from Europe, we are at the level of where the growth will be stagnating, will be no big changes anymore, but you have to keep your economy in your countries. That's important.

That's how you keep your not for profit organizations alive also. If you do have them, having their own economy, you always have to count on West Europe and others. And that's not good. You have to create your own sustainability. And that's important for a NGO to, that's where as a NGO you become an important body in the whole work we have to do.

And it's indeed not so easy to convince a NGO to join NPOC. As I said, most of the NGOs are based on volunteering work. And asking them to do more volunteering work, well, not easy. And especially for youngsters. We understand that you have other criteria in life.

First is having a good job, having a nice family, kids, having a house. That's your priority. Working for ICANN for free, it's not

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your priority. We understand. But you can't, you're not obliged to be there all of the time.

You can help us by participating in working groups as much as you can, just define your time yourself. But at least we would hear about your problems, and that's what we need to know. I saw [inaudible], you had your hand up.

Oh, it was for coffee. Yeah, no problem. Anybody else? Yes?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: What's the kind of outreach activity you are looking at to increase the number of participants in the group? Because…

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Excuse me. If you could just specify your name clearly each time you talk? That will be great for transcript.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I'm [inaudible]. My question is, how are you looking at increasing participation, especially from emerging nations, in this group considering there are many NGOs who are working and really don't know anything about what the work you do?

RUDI VANSNICK: Well, we started by implementing an initiative that is called Pathfinder, where we try to create awareness among the NGOs, and we are organizing webinars where we explain each time, one part of the DNS, to try to get people understanding that it is important.

As I've said, we have tried to going out in the world. Whether events, where NGOs are. And as we are not funded for that, we have to find our own ways of doing these. And we do it through other NGOs, and with other NGOs. We try to find a way of getting to them.

As I said, I was in the third African summit, but it was, I paid it out of my own pocket to go there. Because we don't have a funding mechanism for NPOC. We have to work in the context of ICANN, and we need to find ways of doing the outreach that is not too expensive.

And we know, and we have been claiming already several years to ICANN, that NGOs don't come to ICANN meetings. It's too complex. And most of the time, too expensive. That's why the Fellowship has been created also, to allow you to come. Otherwise, you would not be here. I would be speaking to empty chairs. And that's what we try also to do, is to convince ICANN that we need more efforts, from inside ICANN, to do the outreach. They have a strategy that they are trying to deploy.

I propose that we as a community would start creating our own outreach, cross community and see if it fits with what ICANN is doing and proposing. Because it's not easy to get NGOs around the table. We need to go to the NGOs, not the other way, and that takes time.

We do that each time we have the chance to go to a meeting, and we have on the focus for this year, to go more to the African region, because for us, that's the region where we have to do most of the efforts for outreach, to get an understanding that it is important.

And you are the showcases. You demonstrate that it is important, otherwise you wouldn't be here. But it is a difficult step to go to the NGOs, to find them, to get enough NGOs around the table so that makes sense to have a debate. But it's a good question. And if you have ideas, they are welcome. They are welcome. We cannot invent the wheel ourselves.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: The suggestion is, when you're having a lot of officers and people from ICANN at various regions, possibly they can be mobilized in getting, and doing more outreach activities in those regions, because any of the community members who are not aware of ICANN, and there are many who are not there at the table to deal with decisions are made.

There has to be outreach in terms of getting them to understand the value, why they need to be in the table. There are some unconnected. Even the World Bank reports, or the IT reports, state that even after 10 years, only 65 to 70% people in this world are going to be connected, and that's scary when we talk Internet for all.

So I think those activities need to be looked into.

RUDI VANSNICK: Thank you very much for that suggestion. And indeed, we are trying to convince them, although what we discovered is when ICANN staff goes to the NGOs, there are seen as staff from a big organization. They're not seen as a NGO, and that's where our mission is more important.

We are from NGOs. It's NGOs talking to NGOs, works much better than a big American corporation going down to NGOs, and talk to NGOs. That's the bridge we need to make.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: No, you can do it with the local governments or the local communities there, as a single person would not be able to do, but then there has to be a mechanism which needs to be developed, which can work and get people. Not only NGOs, but the other stakeholders too.

RUDI VANSNICK: Yeah indeed.   And that's a plan we are working on with [inaudible], who is close to the governments, and I have discussed with already with the plan on, we should try to go to government in a country, and ask the ministers, bring your NGOs around the table. We will bring the value of the discussion for the profit and the benefit of the NGOs, in the DNS space.

And if we can do that, then there is a win-win. The government will have some benefit, NGOs will have a benefit, and we will also have the benefit of having new candidates to join our structure. But thanks for the ideas. That's what we need.

That's why we need you in our sessions, to help us bringing new ideas in it.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible] from Nigeria, a first time Fellow. Before you arrived, we were discussing about the possibility of being a member of business constituency, and I know we discussed it in [inaudible] last year, about, if some of yours came to mind now, most of business organizations have CSR, and with the CSR they relate with some NGOs.

Is it possible to now walk with the business constituency to link with the CSR efforts? Because most of the time, the CSRs are

channeled towards some NGO activities. So at the end of the day, you find not for profits residing within business constituencies. So, because I've been told earlier that I'm not going to be a member of non-commercial when I'm a member of business constituency.

And I want to be, because I am part of about two or three different NGOs, okay? And not only that, I'm establishing a school which is a not for profit in my country. Because when you are for profit, as an institution, you pay taxes. But if you're incorporated as limited by guarantee you don't pay taxes.

And that implies that you are more or less a trustee, you're not making profit. And I'm establishing that, alongside what I do in business constituency. So I'm wondering, how will I fit in my business with that of the non for profits effort. Thank you.

RUDI VANSNICK: Thank you for your question and suggestion at the same time. As I said earlier, in the outreach plan, as it is today. It's an outreach plan that comes from ICANN. From I would say, top down. But I'm suggesting is that cross community, we need to look into what is the outreach. We need to do this together.

I have discussed this already with Marilyn Cage, who you all probably know. My name is Marilyn Cage, mine is not. We're

trying to see, there are commonalities in our actions. We all have the same goal. Get people involved in ICANN.

And whatever basis are, we can help each other get new members in it, and new voices. And indeed, that is something where we need to go and see a little bit further than our borders of our organizations. You see, can we get help from the business constituency, for instance. Because they have more financial resources than we have. That's a starting point already.

And when they invite people, their customers could be NGOs, as you have been highlighting to. And that's where we try now to see, can we get an agreement on approaches in the outreach, so that we are not doing each, the same effort, to get the same done. That doesn't make sense at the end.

There is no time for it, and there is no funding for it. So indeed, we try to see if there is a cross community effort that could be done, to allow new members to join, wherever the origin is. It makes things more valuable.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Now let's say I'm thinking about is, working with the registrant, if they are efforts that's promoting maybe a subsidy for registering NGOs not for profits, for them to come on to the [right?] side, rather than using Gmail, Yahoo, and all of that. And for the

registries, we make some promotion to say, okay, if you're going to come to dot [inaudible] dot [inaudible] dot NG, and all of that, some promotion to encourage more not for profits.

But I know there are some challenges because there are a lot of not for profits exist for not [inaudible] costs, so it may be difficult to balance which is authentic not for profit organization existing, and which one is not. But maybe we need to reach out to the register to be able to promote that.

RUDI VANSNICK: Indeed. But there is a lot of [inaudible] work to do, and we cannot do it all at the same time. As I said, we're still [inaudible] constituency. We try to put it in life, and we are taking positions in the policy development work, because that's our first mission, don't forget it. Our first mission is not doing outreach. Our first objective, first mission, that's the reason why we are chartered, is doing policy work.

But to do policy work for the community, you need the community, and we have to do that, and that's what's not so easy to be done. There is somebody else in the back of the room?

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UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [Inaudible] from Tunisia. I mean, the cross community you're working on, ICANN accountability said that the discussion on human rights right now in ICANN is premature. Do you think that this is relevant? And are we going to see more discussion on human rights in the future with the NCUC or CSG structures, in terms of enhancing accountability in the IANA transition?

RUDI VANSNICK: Thank you for that question. And I think it's a topic that needs time to discuss. My fear, and I'm not alone in that, my fear is that the human rights could force ICANN to take decisions, and judge on certain situations. ICANN cannot be a judge at all, because then we are going to crash ICANN.

ICANN has to stay away from any decision that is not touching upon its remit itself, the DNS. If they start giving an appreciation or a judgment on human rights on the level of the domain name space itself, it becomes dangerous because then we are touching on content.

And that's where the separation has to be made. As long as no content is involved, it's okay. But the moment content becomes involved, it becomes dangerous. The problem that I see today is not bad. I think you need human rights in itself being implemented in the mechanism of ICANN, but on the product side, it's quite dangerous.

We need to keep away from that because otherwise, ICANN would become a judge in certain situations, and that's not what we need.

JANICE DOUMA LANGE: So, thank you very much for that. If the… In the slide deck that we sent around with the schedule, all of these links in the deck go straight to the websites for the NPOC, for the NCSG, and also to with the NCUC who are here from next. And I am going to assume, just like I have for all of our other speakers, that if any of our fellows or newcomers see in you in the hallway, they can certainly stop you and ask you any questions that they may have.

And just… And I'm sorry, Rafik. Yes, and so to… So thank you Rudi for that. And to my left here is our next he… In the slide deck that we sent around with the schedule, all of these links in the deck go straight to the websites for the NPOC, for the NCSG, and also to with the NCUC who are here from next. And I am going to assume, just like I have for all of our other speakers, that if any of our fellows or newcomers see in you in the hallway, they can certainly stop you and ask you any questions that they may have.

And just… And I'm sorry, Rafik. Yes, and so to… So thank you Rudi for that. And to my left here is our next speaker, who is

going to talk to you about the next end, the NCUC. And please, Rafik, the floor is certainly yours, and thank you for being here.

RAFIK DAMMAK: Thank you Janice. So okay, my name is Rafik Dammak. You can call me Rafik, it's more easy for [inaudible] speaker. And since we are in Morocco, I wanted to say maybe some words in Arabic like [Arabic].

Good morning. I would like to welcome you in Morocco, that's it.

…in the two last days, you heard a lot about GNSO, ALAC, stakeholder group, constituency and so on and that creates some confusion. So for today, I'm just trying to talk about the NCUC, which stands for the noncommercial user constituency. And it was from the inception of ICANN, I think like more than 16 years ago.

And as a constituency, we represent the noncommercial user. It may confuse people, but it includes individuals and organizations. So it means we have non for profits, association, foundation, and so on, and academics, and also individuals. From, I mean, since the foundation of NCUC, we tended to advocate about human rights, privacy, freedom of expression, development issues, within the policy of GNSO.

It means that we try to include that dimension when the policy are made in GNSO. It means, at the end, that has real influence on domain name policy, not just talk. And one thing, for example, we [inaudible] few years ago when there was the new gTLD program. I'm not sure if, how many of you attending yesterday, new gTLD session. We thought for a long time about providing support for applicant from developing countries.

It means that an applicant from Africa or Asia, they should get that final support, but also can support to apply for a TLD. So, okay, just don't try to see some knots here. So we are a diverse group. It's not just talk about diversity in terms of region and gender. That's a reality for us.

For example, I am an Africa, I'm from Tunisia. And in this chair of the NCUC, which you cannot say is the case in other groups. Probably I am the only non-white, non-Western chair within the GNSO. We also have our diversity like in the executive committee because we elect people by region.

So we have a representative from each region, from the five regions. And the same thing at NCSG, they have requirement about regional representation and gender representation, to have that balance. So we live up to our commitment in terms of diversity, and we always try to bring more from developing country, from Africa.

And I already see here, among you, several of our members like [inaudible] himself. And for example, he is [inaudible] to do more work about to engage our existing members. That's one of the challenge, because I hear a lot about doing outreach. Outreach is [inaudible]. We try to bring more and more people.

And the last years we had a lot, many. It's not enough. It's never enough. But which also quite important, is to try to engage through existing within NCUC. Because at the end, what matters here in ICANN is not talk about what we outreach, or the happy talk about multistakeholders. It's really to get people with a diverse background, diverse interest to influence the current policy made about domain name, or for example, about accountability.

That's really matters. Because at the end, that's what we have global impact. So, we have several of our members involved in different working group. We try to bring more, but [inaudible] newcomer, it's not an easy task.

And personally I acknowledge that frequently. And we try to support them like the [inaudible] help them with advisors, giving some guidance, how to get involved with, and so on. So if you join us, you will probably find the help and support to let you be involved with, and to participate in ICANN policy. Because that's where you can have real influence.

I think many of you, maybe it's your first or second ICANN meeting, and made that kind of impression that everything is done here. Reality is most of the work is done between meetings. It's done in working groups by conference call and so on. That can be challenging.

However, it's, if you join a group like us, you will find the people who can help you, can give you some advice, can let you help you to navigate ICANN website, which is not an easy one.

And to find the information. To explain to you about the background and history. And history really matters about ICANN. For example, [inaudible] had a question about human rights. Human rights matters a lot in ICANN. The problem is you have many parts of the community that still kind of saying, ICANN should not get involved, and there is some confusion.

The reality is ICANN is producing a lot of policy that has an impact on human rights. So, what we are telling is not that ICANN become advocates a group for human rights. It's not within its remit. It's more that ICANN when it's doing policy, you need at least to do some assessment, evaluation if this policy is infringing some rights or not.

So it's more really about the practical side here. And you heard about that maybe content policy, the reality is that somehow, ICANN is involved in that. In particular, the registry and registrar

because they are receiving a lot of pressure and push from government and law enforcement agency, to take it down and to take action.

So it's better that we talk about human rights to create a safeguard, the check and balance to really, to prevent ICANN from doing content policy, because the situation now is quite like I would say gray zone that ICANN is maybe involved with or not. So we talking about human rights, hopefully we'll prevent that.

And some of you maybe attended yesterday's session that cross community working party on human rights. And that's an effort that's supported by NCUC, and we have several of our members there and we try to bring other side from the community. Okay, again, I've been talking now for eight minutes. I think it's maybe time to get more questions. And I am happy to clarify, to respond to them. Yeah.

JANICE DOUMA LANGE: So I know the coffee machine was a little bit late turning on, but we've all had it now. We're starting to wake up a little bit. This is….

RAFIK DAMMAK: Janice, you are in Morocco, you need to drink green tea and not coffee.

JANICE DOUMA LANGE: But did you see the line at the coffee machine? I approve this message. I completely approve this message. But the line at the coffee machine was a little intense this morning. So, and this has been a really chatty group up until now. So let's get some questions going today.

I'll pick on somebody. Okay.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you Rafik.   So we have a lot of people in the room from other regions want to join your constituency. So can you walk them into the process, and how to get involved, and how to potentially what kind of mission, what kind of mandate they have to accomplish potentially when they join the NCUC constituency.

RAFIK DAMMAK: NCSG and NCUC are quite accessible for people to join. I mean, we usually just need to fill an online application form. And which is important that form just indicate, and particularly for that individual, what's your noncommercial interest, because

it's quite important to avoid that people coming from the commercial side, or DNS industry trying to join us.

We are the space for civil society, for not for profit. For activists, for academics. They want to talk about policy. So, I think that you will find the link in our website. We just do it. And then at the end you say, I want to join NCUC. It won't take you that much time, five minutes.

And then the application is reviewed at the NCSG 11 and they send us who to approve it, and you become a member. Then you receive kind of welcome message with several material and information. And that's, I know that's a reality.

I think anyone who join ICANN goes through that kind of challenge, it's to understand what I can do, what kind of topics maybe I should be interested. My advice is really, if you join NCUC, try to focus more on gTLD policy, because that's our area of focus. And then try to find, for example, like, you can find the list, for example, working groups.

I won't say you join working groups and you become active. I'm not going to lie to you like that. But just to join, to because an observer, you see the kind of dynamics, you understand how it works. Because there are some rules, some way how the working groups operate. Like they have many conference calls, like twice per week.

It's a lot of drafting, and so on. And so you can observe, and you can understand the dynamics, what kind of topics, and you can ask questions, and that's what will happen. For example now, about like the new working group on registration, the directory service, thanks, which is the new WHOIS, or not. We have a channel of our member that involve there and we try to share information it's helpful because it's quite dynamic.

And someone can, newcomer can understand what's going on.

[NADIA]:   This is [Nadia]. I'm asking about, because with ICANN, with the different constituencies and council s, it's a bottom up approach. But there is, I don't find there is vertical, I want to see horizontal approach for members who join the NCUC. What do you do for the member themselves, without just going, like not getting together for policy making, or getting recommendation.

Are you doing other activities within this body?

RAFIK DAMMAK: Well, I mean, try to, okay. Yes, I mean, when you are in [inaudible] really about doing policy, because you are representing the noncommercial users. We are one of the groups, we don't have it enough resources compared to other,

like coming from the industry. They have millions of dollars to do that, to influence policy.

So we do a lot of work, and for example, to engage our members. For example, I am chair. I spend more of my times doing admin tasks, like providing updates, managing the membership, trying to plan like for this meeting, and so on. I am a volunteer, I'm doing that work, and we get a person like [inaudible], he joining a team which call its membership of first team, and this team is volunteers, our members, trying to provide like several recommendation in how we can engage more.

What are the expectation of our members? That's a challenge, because for the last five years, we grow quickly I think, in terms of membership, and we still need more people to come, to create more diversity. We have many, from even small islands and so on. We need now to engage the members, to really, every time, we are trying to understand the expectation because it's evolving.

If you have like new members, they have expectation, different way how to interact. So for example, like I am from generation. We use a lot of Skype, but I think for new, honestly use more web apps and so on. So, we are having that [inaudible]. And also, people can work together and they choose a specific topic, and

they can work on that, and they provide like some drafts, some recommendation, and so on.

If we continue about the recent thing, we also work with other groups. So it's not, we are not inside. We work with sometimes, like for example, for the applicant support, it was a work with the ALAC here. We find the common ground, with other group we do that.

[NADIA]:   Again, this is [Nadia], a continuation to this, because I notice while preparing my program, that there is a voluntary problem with ICANN and [inaudible], because as also Rudi mentioned, that after a while, the volunteers drop out. And I'm thinking for a wider, not just for this question, for this point or for… So in effect, there is, volunteers has to find also an advantage for themselves.

Find something, what I have to do for me, to be, to provide a volunteer. To be a volunteer. So that's why maybe, another option with NCUC do a program within, activities within that's, I don't also talk about that cross constituencies, but within, because you have a big number of NCUC volunteers.

And in a way, it's better to have some joint activity, something that makes me belong.

RAFIK DAMMAK: Sorry [Nadia], not sure to answer. Sorry, let me talk here.

[NADIA]:   [Foreign Language]

I'm talking because all the members that are existing, it has to be something that would gather them together. All of the activities that they are doing, thank you so much for all of your efforts. It does not come to the individual themselves.

I volunteer to work with you in the group, but there is nothing for me really, that I would guarantee that I'm there. Why don't you create an activity within that activity for me? Within that group for me?

RAFIK DAMMAK: Okay, first you are not a member yet. Yes, our main work is about policy because that matters, because things happen and have real impact. We do other activities like outreach. For example, we organize like an IGF workshop. We participate in other conference, and it was like people without asking for permission for that.

They organize it like there was a conference about privacy and data protection in Brussels. They organize it their own

workshop. We help them. We had even small event to bring people. So there is like the outreach. We also participate in Internet governance in general, and we have such discussion.

I understand you. It's create activities, but please bear with us. We are just volunteers. I'm not working for ICANN. I do this in my free time, and this is quite important because either you are [inaudible], even if you have the funding, you don't have the funding to do work in ICANN space.

You have funding to do in more broad issues. So we are trying to bring those organization, but we know that we have an issue, is how much we [inaudible]. Individuals, they have the different interest. They can be really motivated to do things, but you know, people maybe, how do you say, priorities change in the future, and that's okay. We are evolving. We are evolving. We always have a new leadership.

We have many new faces. It's quite important, because if compared to other groups, trust me, you will find the same faces for 10 years. The same people for 15 years. We, we have many new members. Some people like, they become executive committee and they just join like less than two years ago.

They join, they are elected in GNSO council, and they have like one year. We are evolving. I understand that we need to create

more activities, but as I said, it's also coming from bottom up. It's what people want.

[NADIA]: Can I promote your NCUC? Because I am now into a nominating committee for the civil society to a different, like the MAG, multistakeholder advisory committee, to the, and other, like NetMundial, and NCUC, they do call for this. And they promote, they are part of this coalition. So everybody…

In fact, there is a call now, and anybody is interested and can approach by the leader and be nominated to the wider community of Internet governance.

RAFIK DAMMAK: Thanks. We also have several NCUC member in the different [inaudible]. Yes.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Good morning everyone. I'm [inaudible] an Internet analyst and ICANN Fellow from Tunisia. Thank you very much Mr. Rafik for explaining and introducing the NCUC. I just have a question. I can't really find, I can't really understand the difference between NPOC and the NCUC, in that the NPOC is non for profit, and the

NCUC, you said that we also can't, civil society organizations and activists.

So I kind of feel that the function and mission kind of overlap. So could you please explain this for us?

RAFIK DAMMAK: Thank you. It's quite an interesting question. There is actually some history behind that. We are more broad. We have the non for profit, the association foundation, and individuals. And we are much, how to say, we are from inception, and so we are the [inaudible] for civil society.

In 2010, 2011, like there was a push like we, because in NCIG, we have, you can have different constituency for now, we have two. And there wasn't that time push to have a new constituency. They say we want to kind of want to represent the not for profit operational concerns. It's quite important to read that, operational concerns.

They are saying, okay, we want to represent the interest for nonprofit about using domain name. We are quite narrow, as a mission. And I think there are funding issues with that. And that's why it maybe to be, to expand that. Anyway, I don't want to go into that area here, but what I am trying to say, we are quite broad.

We accept all kinds of civil society organizations, activists, and we are more… Our mission and our charter gives us the ability to talk about many topics. And really to try to influence the policy. So in terms of organization, we have a different, I mean, an active one and like really [inaudible] in the Internet governance space, like access now, EFF, electronic frontier foundation, Heritage Foundation.

We have even Wiki Media lately as a member. So we have those, coming to us, we have also many academics, because it's not easy for an academic to find a space in ICANN. Many of them come to us. Also have many activists. Global Voices is also one of our members, and so on. So we are quite inclusive, and we focus on policy, but we also talk about issues like Internet governance and engineering.

So by the way, if you join NCSG, you can join both constituency if you want. There is no restriction on that. There is no problem. Just, they don't accept individuals, we accept both. Individuals and organization. So, does that respond to your question?

So sorry guys, I've got three questions from people, there is no transparency here. So I want to hear also from… I mean, we are in Africa too, so I would like from Africa.

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UNKNOWN SPEAKER: No conspiracy, but means you've not been doing enough with your men or people, that's why they're asking you here.

RAFIK DAMMAK: Sorry?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: It means you've not been reaching out to them in [inaudible], that's why they're asking you here.

Okay, I wanted to ask if from their own perspective as well, what is a need for civil society to be interested in ICANN?

RAFIK DAMMAK: Good question. Really good question, because we always have the difficulty to explain why they need to be in this space. Because if you are, let's say, NGO interested in ICT in general in Africa, why should spend your time here in ICANN?   ICANN is doing policy for domain name, okay. Looks quite narrow, DNS quite narrow.

However, the policy of ICANN has a global impact, global impact. I mean, it's the only, I think, structure, organization, when they make policy about something on the Internet, it's applied everywhere. We don't find every organization have [inaudible].

And domain name is the one way of access, because with domain name, you can access to website.

And for example, if you want to provide content. We think about hosting, we have already, if you are in Africa, have already difficulties to find the hosting in your region, and your domain name. So we need to provide, to make them both accessible. For ICANN, it's not dealing with hosting, but with domain. Something we need to make it more accessible.

And that's why when there was like a new gTLD program, we expand the number of TLDs. It was quite important to have more TLDs in our region. And [inaudible] there is no if, even if now we talk about [dot?] Africa, it's not in a… Most of the TLD are operated in North America and in Europe. We need to expand that. Why?

It's not just to have more business, but to make it more accessible to the user. If you are a noncommercial, you are using your domain just maybe for doing [inaudible], or you want just your personal website. You need to have that access. On the other hand, we talked about access in general.

I think it's also about, you know, freedom of expression, because ensuring that you get a domain, it's not taken from you because someone using existing processes, like what we call DRP. DRP

stands for dispute resolution process, which is kind of, where someone can claim this should be my domain.

We are trying to avoid the situation, but it's happening in many times, that someone using that process to take you, to take your own domain, because he try to prevent your freedom of expression. For example, let's say you're complaining about some trademark. You use trademark and you add some more to, you know, to knock it or something.

We are trying to avoid such situations, so it matters. If you're a NGO, you care about human rights, you can participate somehow specifically about that topic. We don't ask them to participate in all ICANN activities. It's not realistic. Even me, I don't follow everything, because it's not necessarily interesting, and you have to prioritize.

So, what we can do is sometimes, for specific topics, we liaise with some organization. And sometimes, like in last summer, there was a report from working group, which is about proxy and privacy service. It's quite obscure. However, it's attracted, I think, more than 20,000 individual comments, because many organizations, they never participated in ICANN. They found that what was proposed in the report, would have so much impact on them. It was just…

I mean, a few recommendation in obscure working group in ICANN that nobody outside the community know, but when they discovered that, they participated so heavily and there were so many campaign, massive campaign to [inaudible] individuals, they have interest in many organizations. And even it was like this report was mentioned in several mainstream media.

So, some topic, you need to bring those NGOs to participate, because those policy have impact on them.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Okay, sorry. Let me just wrap up the question. I'm sorry to… Yeah, I'm [inaudible] from Nigeria, first time Fellow. I forgot the other time. I understand the explanation. Maybe because for now, what you'll be interested in is policy making, right? Not the outreach per se.

However, now, you answer both now. If you are interested in outreach, trying to discuss with a lot of NGOs who come out part of these activities, want to know an end user is interested in poverty, another end user interested in women care or child care. NGOs are interested in different things.

Different venues with different interests. What does Internet presence got to do with some of them? Some of them will tell you, activities are supposed to be with Internet displaced

persons, or refugees in rural areas. For example, I want to tell the end user, please come to ICANN how does that work? That is the point I'm making. Thank you.

RAFIK DAMMAK: Yes, thanks. We are realistic. I mean, we will not say we will attract all NGOs all over the world to get involved in ICANN. We need also to be, if we say that, we are living like in bubble. Organizations, they have many interest and they work in different field. What I'm trying to say is that for some topics, for specific issues, you need to reach those with interest. Those with experience, and to bring them to participate.

So that's why a lot of outreach for educational, to explain why it matters. It's not about increasing the number. And yeah.

Yeah, but he wants to…

Okay, yeah. Come to speak on the mic.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Okay. This is [inaudible] again. I'll try to keep this short, but I wanted to answer your questions with some practical examples of what sort of civil society actors maybe interested in becoming involved in GNSO policy developments. Just for example, let's say a battered women's shelter somewhere, okay?

What could possibly attract a battered women's shelter to have an interest in gTLD policy development? Rafik was talking about privacy proxy services. Let's say there is an ICANN policy on accrediting the service providers of privacy proxy. How does this effect, for example, a battered women's shelter?

Let's say you have a disgruntled spouse that's trying to locate his wife, for example, who he beats, and she left him and is hiding out at a battered women's shelter. So he finds perhaps a website to the battered women's shelter. They don't put their address on there because they want to make sure that the spouses can't locate their wives.

But what he does is he looks up the domain name in the WHOIS system. Right? And so in the WHOIS, in the absence of a privacy service, they will be able to find out where the address of the shelter is, and they will track them down. Now thankfully, there are privacy services out there, and now there is a policy that sort of regulates this.

That it allows for organizations like that to have the privacy service. The same thing will apply to other civil society organizations, to perhaps to political or ethnic minorities in countries who need to need privacy services, and these are one of the examples for, that where human rights issues come in, in gTLD policies in the very narrow mandate of ICANN.

So there are, if you really look into how an organization that may on the surface, may appear not to have anything to do with Internet policy, but in order for them to have a web presence, a presence on the Internet of their own, not through social media that regulates them through their own corporate regulations, and sort of like what you need to agree to sign up and have a webpage perhaps on Facebook or something, but this way, they have a say themselves in the policies that effect the domain names and their presence on the Internet, even though it's directly associated with their primary mission.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: It's clear now. Thanks a lot.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: My name is [inaudible]. I'm a first time Fellow, newcomer. My question is still riding on the confusion that my colleague asked out in terms of okay, now I'm more clear on the difference between the mechanism or the composition of the members between the not for profit and the noncommercial users.

But I need a bit more assistance with understanding the distinct difference between the, maybe the issues that you deal with that are different to the issues that they deal with. Maybe you can give me sort of a few examples that will make it clear.

RAFIK DAMMAK: Okay. I think maybe you know this when we talked about the human rights. The response I gave and the response he gave. So we understand more how it's much more critical, and we are practical on that matter. Also historically, we are more like, we have been here for a long time, and we are involved in several topics, and we develop a position.

To be honest, sometimes I'm not familiar with all of their position. They are still trying to figure out what they should do here. We are more, like we have for a long while, we participate in working group and we have people who participated even in information like DRP, and so on, from the beginning.

So let's expand about human rights, [inaudible] development, really also being about diversity, and I said we have more broad because our diversity, people have a different position. For example, maybe, like I told you yesterday, about the public interest topic. In our group, we have really a discussion about that because people have, when you have people from the north hemisphere and south hemisphere, and we different background. It's really you see how position can be developed, and sometimes there is kind of opposition or clash.

But we are working [inaudible] on those matters. So I mean, if I can say in few words, more practical, more participate and on

policy making, because there is a duty to represent noncommercial users. We cannot claim we represent all of them, that's why we try to bring more and more, talk when [inaudible] user, you can voice your concern. You can tell us from where you are from, what you think is important to talk about.

And that's why the outreach for us is a means, it's not a goal. If we target outreach about in-reach within our members, it's really is about how we can improve our way of doing things. How we can add to our existing diversity, how we can bring more voices.

Also, because when you bring new people, they bring new concerns. And things are evolving. There are many new issues happening. For example, two years ago, nobody would think about IANA stewardship transition, and then it counts, and they become one of the main topic and we have to spend so much time on that, on to make it. Yeah.

Is it clear, a little bit clear?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: So your explanation is excellent. Maybe in my case, it will take a bit of time to figure out…

RAFIK DAMMAK: No worries. I mean… Don't worry. I think I discovered [inaudible] in working with new members. Really you have to understand why you come here, what are your concerns? What are your interests? And then we can figure out what you should do, because it's not that easy. How you match your own interest, your commitment, and what is happening already.

And for us, and for me personally, my work is to help you to do that.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Okay, thanks.

JANICE DOUMA LANGE: So, we have more questions over there. Just to point out what you said. I just wanted to add to what you said and to what you said. When we were talking about our newcomer day, and what we've been kind of talking about throughout the week, is certainly when you ask about the issues that they're working on. The issues are, I don't want to say the same, but the issues are the ICANN issues.

But it's the way that the different communities and the different constituencies are approaching them that are relevant to them. So when we are talking about our individual journeys, and our individual interests and topics, and the things that we're

interested in, those are how we're entering, right? So you as a newcomer, you have your set interests and the things that matter to you, and that's how you get involved.

And so sometimes it's finding a topic that interests you. Does that make a little bit more sense? Okay?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: ….Rafik, and [inaudible] and other folks from the NCUC, so don't feel bad if after this meeting you are not able to talk about what is NCUC or NPOC, or whatever. So it will take time. Thank you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Good morning everyone. I'm [inaudible] and I'm a first time Fellow for ICANN. And I just have a question because the question may be [inaudible] because I'm really thinking everything. It's really general, because in my country, it's like [inaudible] like ICT is growing more because we have like ICT Internet in [1998?] came to the town where ICANN was like founded.

So like I just wanted, because in every country, like we have like Internet governance and ISOC. So these are like NGOs which have some Internet, but in my country, I think we don't have like these type of NGOs. So if can share like experience, because it's

a noncommercial discussion here, so like if you can help me, like how I can contributing to my [inaudible]…

But on the ICTs it's really, it needs to grow, can advise me. I'm sorry, if it's really…

RAFIK DAMMAK: No, don't say sorry. I mean, it's [inaudible] the question. And that's why we have individuals, because in some countries, we don't have necessarily NGOs working on ICT issues. But you have people committed, having a lot of interests, active. It's what we call active. Then we're providing them with the ability to join us and to become active, and to voice the concern of their own community.

So don't worry. As an individual, you can join us. You don't need to be worried that you need to find some NGO that may be will have some interest. You can join us as individual, and then you can bring the concern, you can voice the issues that you think really matter for those in [inaudible]. So that's why it's quite important to have individuals.

It's not about growing the number. But in some area, for some communities, for some issues, the only way to bring the voices is to bring the individuals, it's not to bring some institution. It

doesn't always work like that. Does that respond to your…? Yeah.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I'm [inaudible]. My question is, you made a statement stating that your group had been working on the new gTLDs, especially the cost factor for the emerging nations. Now there is a discussion going on the next new gTLDs, and the second level ccTLDs. There is a discussion which is going on. So how do you look at the price factor? Because it is definitely a cost for emerging nations. Recurring cost as well as one-time cost. Are you looking at that factor?

RAFIK DAMMAK: Okay. We cannot speak about ccTLD, because that's really national matter. It's every country defining its own policy. For the applicant support, I was the co-chair of that working group that made recommendation on how we can support applicant from developing countries.

And we try, for example, to understand the whole process what there are sort of, I mean, the requirement in the applicant guidebook. And we find, for example, it's not just about the financial side. It's really about the whole requirements, the legal

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requirement, the technical requirement, and then we thought, what kind of recommendation?

Maybe sharing resources between different operator. So to help, to have more and so on. Like to have regional operator. So then you can have more TLDs. So we want more, it's how to give financial support, and also in kind support. It's not just about the applicant fee.

We are beyond that. And for the new working group, we are taking kind of review of the previous program, and they will start to see what they should, I mean, to do first kind of review and to see what they should improve. And for sure, we will push a lot about applicant support, because there was an implementation, and that was due, I think, to the Board's actions.

So we will try to improve that and we will keep pushing.

JANICE DOUMA LANGE: Just to let you know that Bryon will be with us on Thursday to talk about more about ccs. So you'll be able to ask your question about ccTLDs on Thursday.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Okay. [Inaudible], I come [inaudible]. I just need more insight about the policy making process. Like how NCUC fit among the

other constituencies in the GNSO. And we know that civil society voices are not usually taken very seriously due to the policies. So what happens in case of, I don't know, conflicts, what happen? How do you do resolution basically in terms of policy making?

RAFIK DAMMAK: Okay. For GNSO, most of the policy making happens within the working groups, and that's why we encourage and we send our members to participate in the working group. So you participate in drafting the recommendation. And after, when you have the recommendation, they got to GNSO council. And NCSG have six representatives in GNSO council, including [inaudible] here. He's a GNSO counselor, and he's supposed to represent us.

He represents NCSG, but because NCUC is a part of NCSG, he is also representing us. So civil society has a voice. And you are participating effectively. And I mean, we are constructive within the setting. Is it enough? Not. Because we need more and more people to participate in working groups, because that's where most of the work happens.

And this quite a commitment, because attending one or two conference calls a week, participating in interacting when ICANN is not your main job, is quite challenging, but we have people

doing that. So you have more people participating there. Also there is the public comment, and so we participate to submit comments, and we also encourage other civil society organizations in ICANN to also submit their own comment to bring more diversity and more weight to our kind of statement, our position.

So that is where a lot of work is done, and then the GNSO council is kind of more managing the process to approve at the end. So there are many elected people from the different group, and we have our own representative.

And several time we could have impact, influence. We could reject several policy that we thought it was against. What the interest of noncommercial. Okay [inaudible] you want to add something?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thanks Rafik. I just wanted to address one specific thing you said. You said that civil society input is not taken seriously. I would not say that that is entirely accurate. I think civil society input has been critical to development of gTLD policies both now and in the past, and hopefully in the future.

As Rafik pointed out, there are civil society representatives from NCSG slash NCUC on working groups. And the working groups

are really the bottom of this bottom up process that you keep hearing about. This is where these policies are discussed in great details. Sometimes it takes years to finish the work and develop the recommendations.

And as counselors, as members of the GNSO council, it is the job of counselors to manage this policy process. So when you say civil society input being taking seriously or not, it is the job of not just counselors representing civil society, but the entire GNSO council, to make sure that all of the input that is provided to the process is given its due consideration, taking into account and addressed one way or the other.

That's kind of a differentiation between the job of those who are on working groups developing the policies, and those who are on council, who are managing the process to make sure that it is running the way it is meant to run.

JANICE DOUMA LANGE: Thank you. So our next speaker is here, so Rafik, if you just want to close up really quickly. And thank you.

RAFIK DAMMAK: So thanks everyone for the questions. Our next meeting, we meet at 9:30 in this room. So you're not going to move far from here. And also you can follow up on Twitter. Just at NCUC. So

NCUC on Twitter, and you will find that there. If you have any question, you can ask me any time. So see you soon.

JANICE DOUMA LANGE: Thank you Rafik. [APPLAUSE]

So our next speaker is Anthony Harris from the ISP CPC. And I am, because we are short on time this morning, I am just going to hand it straight over to him, and let him take the floor. Thank you.

ANTHONY HARRIS: Good morning everyone. I'm a little out of breath. I just walked about a mile to get here from a breakfast meeting, so excuse my breathlessness.

I am here to speak for the Internet service provider constituency. We are the guys that, usually, enable you to connect to the Internet. And we tend to be, hang out in just about every country. So I am sure you… I would imagine most of you if not all of you, connect to the Internet using the services provided by one of our members, which are Internet service providers.

Basically what we focus on in ICANN is two or three things. We're very interested in IP addressing, although the major focus of activities here in ICANN is on names. As you know, numbers

are a big part of connectivity, and addressing, and that is something we pay a lot of attention to and interest.

One of our major current projects is creating awareness of the new gTLD program. I'm sure you're aware that ICANN is in the process of launching over 1,000 new generic top level domains. We have, I think, close to probably 800 now already operating or being launched. And this is a huge milestone in the history of ICANN, which provides increased consumer choice.

I mean, you have a lot of options now to have an Internet identity. And the thing is, mostly worldwide we noticed, a lot of people don't know about this. And what happens is, from our point of view as Internet service providers, we keep getting calls in our call centers, related to new generic top level domains. And a lot of our members who are small ISPs are in the country some place, still don't know too much about this program.

So basically, one of our missions is to do a lot of outreach, and within that outreach, this is a large part of the message. Another project we're working on which has been recently launched, and it's hugely important, is universal acceptance for new generic top level domains.

Problems historically have emerged when you launch a new generic top level domains. Some years back, we launched domains like dot info, and dot post, and quite a few more. And

we noticed that a lot of portals, a lot of banking, online services, and different, let's say, online destinations did not recognize email addresses that had the new generic top level domains.

So if you wanted to do a banking transaction and you were using a new domain like dot info, for example, the bank would say, this is an invalid address. Please use a dot COM, or a dot NET, or a dot ORG address, because this is something which had been programed into these systems years ago, and even now programmers using what they call black listing or white listing, to define what a valid email address would look like.

So basically we had to put together a working group in ICANN, which has a session this week, I'm not sure if it's tomorrow, and I would urge you to attend, because it is extremely important to the future of the new gTLD program that we are able to get this message out to programmers all over the world, and systems are, let's say, sys admins and sys ops, that they have to consider when they define addressing parameters in their portals and their online services, that you have an awful lot of new generic top level domains.

In other words, names on the right of the dot. It's no longer about dot COM, dot NET, and dot ORG in that sense. You have 800 more options now. And it will be more within a year. So

basically, I think those are the main topics that I wanted to quickly fly past you.

And perhaps, since I understand we're short of time, we could use the rest of the time for questions, if that's okay with you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Hi. I'm [inaudible]. I'm particularly interested in your group because I'm from an ISP background. I wanted to first of all find out if this is open to anyone who involvement, or it's actually the companies, the ISPs that should send a representative. Because I'm an engineer, and I would be one of those people receiving calls or inquiries about that.

And if I'm to approach my… Like for example, coming to this meeting, I asked for motivation, but they don't see the relevance because obviously, outreach hasn't come to them. So I wanted to find out if you're open to individual users or you would want the ISP to send a person?

ANTHONY HARRIS: Yes, that's a good question, thank you. Our constituency, as a group, we have certain requirements to be a part of the Internet service provider constituency. We do ask that you be a service provider, or a tele co, or what we call a connectivity provider.

Which would be like a tier one, let's say, connectivity company. However, all of these issues I was talking about, you can get involved in. You can get involved with universal acceptance, which is a very, very important issue. Just by joining the group that's free, that's there is no obstacle. And if you go to the meeting, or go online, you can find where to sign up for that.

And with a new gTLD program, there is plenty of places you can participate in, and get all of the information you need, even on the ICANN website. As far as your interest as an individual, probably what I can do, I can give you my card, when this meeting is over, and I'll see how I can… Maybe you can receive our newsletter, and get information from us on a regular basis.

We can probably do that without any problem, okay? Thank you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you. So I have a question. There are a number of issues that are rising in developing countries, [inaudible] developed countries, where politicians would use their political master to block content within the ISP business. If I am member of the ISP business constituency, I don't know how you will help your members to…

I know different countries have different jurisdiction when it comes to content issues, but how do you help your members to go through this fight that is always there between government and the content providers? And the human rights issue of denying me services online as a constituency?

ANDREW HARRIS: Well that's a very interesting and difficult question. Basically, you have to realize that our involvement in ICANN has strictly to do with ICANN's mission, which is coordination of protocols, names, and numbers. We do not deal here with political issues, important as they are.

And we don't give out guidance. Basically I work for an ISP association in Argentina, a very big one, and I understand what you're talking about. Normally what we do as ISPs, we only take content down if we get an order from a judge. I don't know what it's like where you live, but that is the way it's structured on a national basis in Argentina, and a lot of countries are quite similar.

I'm thinking where you can go for that type of networking and I think probably a good place would be in the African regional Internet registry. That's AfriNIC, I believe. I think they have a lot of expertise because you have all of the ISPs in Africa, members

there. And I think that might be a good place where you could network and get feedback on exactly what you're asking. Okay?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I'm smiling because AfriNIC is right there. Not in her official position, but she's from AfriNIC so I don't know. Is this something within your jurisdiction from the African continent?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I'm not so sure. But we do have the initiative [inaudible] that works with like governments. So like maybe, because basically restricting access to content is, comes from governments. [Inaudible] she heads the AFG WG, maybe she'll have more information about that. But yes, we have most of the [inaudible] ISPs in Africa as members. We want to get more.

There are quite a lot of them that are not members yet, but that could be a good discussion as well, that you can bring up in one of our regional meetings, if you want. Yeah.

CHRISTINE: Hi. I'm Christine from the Fellowship Committee, and I would like to quickly respond. You might want to go to the [AF NOG], to the African Network Operators Group, and they're all African

ISPs that are there and they probably discuss those types of policies. So there will be a place to go.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: We also have a question, go ahead.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you very much for elaborative part. I have two questions. First is, is there a limit to gTLDs. As you said, there would be around 1,000 new gTLDs. So if there isn't any, which I will understand that there will be in the times to come, new gTLDs emerging. So how do you plan to cover the security issues that you yourself said that technical guys have, white and black lists? Thank you.

And for the record this is [inaudible] from Pakistan.

ANTHONY HARRIS: If I got you right, your question is, how do we intend to solve this?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yes.

ANTHONY HARRIS:

Well actually, that's… Our constituency is not directly involved in solving this problem. There is a working group, as I said, which is called the universal acceptance steering group, SG. There is an event which they're having tomorrow, I believe. It's on the agenda, on the schedule.

And you can sign up with them, and receive all of the information, technical papers, and basically the people who are working to solve this problem are in this group. We're talking about companies like Microsoft, like Go Daddy, VeriSign, Google, Facebook. They're all involved.

And the first thing we have been doing is making sure that the web based email services, such as Gmail, Yahoo, and what's the name? The Microsoft one. Hotmail, do not reject new gTLDs. That has already been worked on and solved. And the next step, which is going to be announced tomorrow, is we are beginning to issue technical papers, and technical directives, which will also address IDNs, internationalized domain names, because that's where we have a big problem with this also.

There are a lot of new top level domains which are not in ASCII. They are in Arabic script or Chinese or whatever. And those are having problems also.

JANICE DOUMA LANGE: We have hardly any time for one more question because we are running over, but I wanted to get to you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: It wasn't a question, it was a comment. So I think I will pass.

JANICE DOUMA LANGE: Are you sure? Okay. So we are over time, but I wanted to thank you so much for stopping by this morning and for running over your, for running over here. I know it's a trek over from all kinds of areas around here. So thank you very much for coming. And for all of the Fellows, we have a meeting at 6:00. It's a closed session.

So it's an opportunity for us to kind of sit and download constituency day at each other. And it's over in [inaudible] which is across from registration. So, please if we can thank Tony. [APPLAUSE]

TONY: Thank you very much. And stay tuned, stay with ICANN, it's exciting.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Please will you leave your cards?

JANICE DOUMA LANGE: With Jeanie.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]